

1837

My dear Sir,

I called on you yesterday, but was unfortunate in not finding you at home, and I was much more disappointed at not being at home myself when you called on me some time ago. I trust, however, we shall one day be more successful, as I much desire to have some chat with you.

I yesterday received a packet of letters from Germany, with one from Ferdinand Wolf, who repeats to me his request (that had previously been made in a letter that has never arrived) that I should thank you for him for your little Miracle Plays which he is delighted to have. He is making preparations for a large and detailed work on the stage representations of the Middle Ages. He writes to me also that he is now printing a complete collection of the Friar-Rash and Robin-Goodfellow Stories, which is to contain 1. A new edition of the Old German poem already printed, 2. by him and Sudlicher, 3. A low German poem on the same subject, *via* Discovered, 3. A Danish poem of Friar Rush, 4. The English prose history of Friar Rush, from Thom's reprint, &c. &c. And he talks of reprinting in it your little ballad of Robin-Good-fellow, and asks me as a great favour to procure him, at almost any expense, a copy to manuscript of the prose Robin-Good-fellow and Hob-Goblin of the Bodleian library. About this latter I should like to speak with you - I have an

idea that you once told me you had transcribed it. If you have no immediate intention of printing it, perhaps you would have no objection to communicating to Walf your transcript; in which case I would ask you to send it him yourself, and I will forward it and shall feel great pleasure in introducing him to you. Such a collection of the different forms of the legend as he is publishing will be extremely curious.

I have just received from Walf a tract on the Anglo-Norman historians which he has done me the honour of dedicating to me. I expect in a few days two or three more topics, among which he tells me is a copy for you.

I have just received from Paris rather a large volume of martyrdom and miracle-plays of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, some of which are curious. I intend a slight notice of it for the Gentl. Mag. next time. I wish you could persuade the Surters to print the Chester and Coventry Mysteries as companions to their Towneley Mysteries, which I understand has sold uncommonly well.

Poor Dyce has been very ill lately - have you seen him?

Believe me, my Dear Sir,

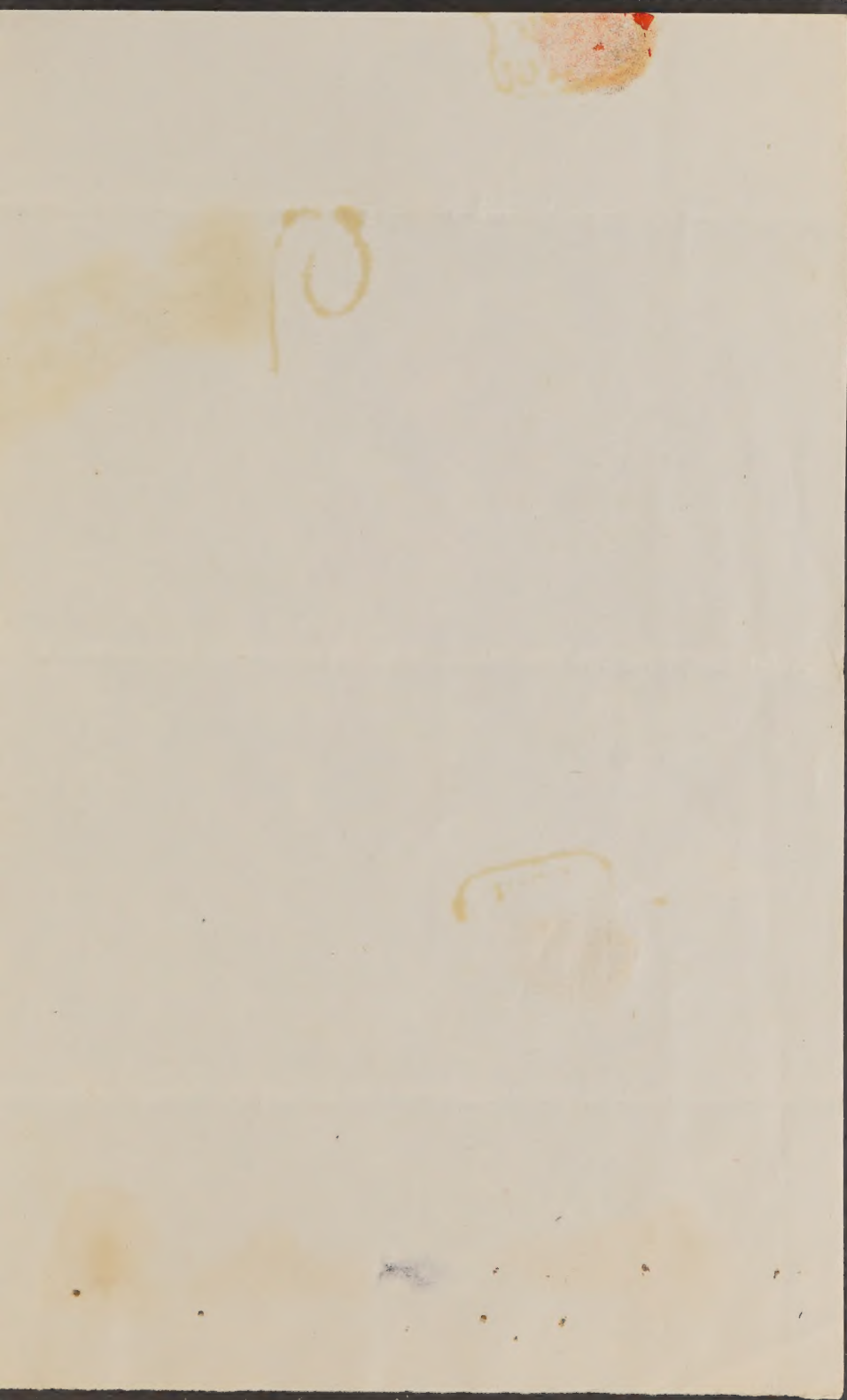
Most truly Yours

9, Great St. Helens Street, Regent St.

Monday Morning, 3 May.

Thomas Wright





W  
1850

9

1850

J. P. Collier, Esq.

25, Custom Square

1850

